

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

EXPEDITED CARD REFORM FOR CONSUMERS ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3639) to amend the Credit Card Accountability Responsibility and Disclosure Act of 2009 to establish an earlier effective date for various consumer protections, and for other purposes:

Mr. BACA. Mr. Chair, I rise today in support of H.R. 3639—the Expedited CARD Act of 2009. This important piece of legislation will continue the great work that this Congress and the President completed earlier this year, by moving up the remaining dates on the original Credit CARD Act.

Since signing the CARD Act into law, credit card companies have engaged in last-ditch predatory practices, seeking to gain as much money as possible from the American consumer. Many of the same practices that the Federal Reserve labeled “unfair or deceptive” and were prohibited in the original CARD Act, have increased in past months. In fact, since last May, credit card companies have raised interest rates by an average of 20 percent.

When this law was passed, this body warned credit card companies that swift action would be taken if these companies took advantage of the staggered implementation of the bill. It is clear these companies have done just that, and we are now prepared to follow through on our promise.

I want to thank Mrs. MALONEY and Chairman FRANK for their hard work on this issue and I am proud to be a cosponsor on this important piece of legislation.

I urge my colleagues to vote “yes” on this bill.

HONORING ROBERT WAMPLE

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 5, 2009

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Robert Wample upon his retirement as the director of the Viticulture and Enology Research Center and the chair of the Department of Viticulture and Enology at California State University, Fresno. Dr. Wample was honored on September 19, 2009 at a fundraising event for the Robert L. Wample Viticulture and Enology Endowment Fund in support of the Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology.

Dr. Wample served in the United States Marine Corps from 1962 until 1966. Upon separating from the military, he began his college education. In 1971, he graduated cum laude from the University of Idaho with a Bachelors

of Science degree in Botany. While attending college he worked as a Research Technician for the United States Department of Agriculture at the Forest Service research center in Idaho. Dr. Wample continued his education at the University of Calgary in Calgary, Alberta, Canada, where he earned his Ph.D. in Plant Physiology. His teaching career began while in Calgary; while completing his Ph.D. he was a Graduate Teaching Assistant at the University.

After earning his Ph.D., Dr. Wample served as a Postgraduate Scholar for the National Research Council of Canada. In 1976, he moved to southern California to take an Associate Professor of Botany position with California State University, Fullerton. After two years, he moved to Washington State University where he was an Associate Professor of Horticulture and Assistant Horticulturist for nine years. In 1993, he became a Professor, Horticulturist and Viticulturist for the Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture at Washington State University. In 2000, Dr. Wample found his way to California State University, Fresno. Over the past nine years, he has served as the Julio Gallo Chair and Director of the Viticulture and Enology Research Center, as well as the Chair of the Department of Viticulture and Enology.

Prior to Dr. Wample joining CSU Fresno, the viticulture and enology had been operating independently of each other for fifty years. Under his leadership, the two programs were merged together to become the first California State University to combine the two research and academic programs. The merge has had great success, including the recognition of CSU Fresno as a global agricultural education prominence. Further, during Dr. Wample's tenure, the program has raised well over five hundred thousand dollars in industry funding for the research programs.

Dr. Wample has served on a number of committees for the departments and colleges he has worked in. He has served on the Washington State Animal Damage Control Advisory Board, the Washington Agriculture and Forestry Leadership Selection Committee, the W-130/WRCC-17, organizing committee for the International Symposium on Nitrogen in Grapes and Wine, the National Grapevine Importation Program and he served as the co-chairman of the committee for the International Symposium on Wine Grape Irrigation. He is also involved with the American Association for the Advancement of Science, American Society of Plant Physiology, American Society of Horticulture Science, American Society of Enology and Viticulture and the Northwest Chapter of the American Society of Enology and Viticulture. Dr. Wample's civic and community membership includes Rotary International, Prosser Wine and Food Fair Committee, Advisor to the Prosser Economic Development Association and United Good Neighbors.

Dr. Wample has been involved with, and led numerous research projects, including research on specific physiological responses of

a plant and agricultural advancements in machinery and irrigation. He has spoken at many seminars and given many presentations. Dr. Wample is published in well over two hundred journals, books, magazines, reports, abstracts, papers and publications.

For his activities, inside the university and the community, Dr. Wample has been widely honored. He has been honored by the American Society of Enology and Viticulture, the International Symposium of Nitrogen in Grapes and Wine, the Second International Symposium on Climate Viticulture, International Conference on Crop Productivity and the National Research Council of Canada.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Dr. Robert Wample upon his retirement from California State University, Fresno. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Dr. Wample many years of continued success.

THANKING JOE ADAMS FOR HIS
SERVICE TO THE HOUSE

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 5, 2009

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, on the occasion of his retirement on November 2, 2009, we rise to thank Mr. Joe Adams for his 32 years of distinguished service to Congress. Joe has served this great institution as a valued employee of the Architect of the Capitol for 19 years and House Information Resources (HIR), in the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) for 13 years.

Joe joined HIR in 1996 as a Data Network Engineer. During this time, he successfully upgraded the House Campus Data Network to an Ethernet-based, high-capacity data communications backbone and increased the House Internet connection capacity 200 fold from 3 Megabits per second (Mbps) to 600 Mbps. These upgrades were the foundation of greatly improved information technology service delivery and contributed significantly to highly available, mission critical data transport services.

In recent years, as manager for the Network Systems Engineering Branch, Joe led a team of engineers who helped implement upgrades to support efficient, effective and sustainable services to the House. His unparalleled dedication, considerable institutional knowledge and attention to detail have helped the Office of the CAO maintain a high degree of customer satisfaction. For his performance, he was awarded the “CAO Distinguished Service Award” in 2003 and the “CAO Excellence Award for Knowledge” in 2008.

On behalf of the entire House community, we extend congratulations to Joe for his years of dedication and outstanding contributions to the United States Congress.

• This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF
TERRY JOYCE, SR.

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 5, 2009

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Terry "Kelly" Joyce, Sr., devoted husband, father, grandfather, friend and staunch labor advocate, whose commitment to family, to his Irish heritage and to the workers of Cleveland has left an indelible imprint throughout our community.

Born and raised in County Mayo, Ireland, Mr. Joyce immigrated to America in 1957 and settled in Cleveland. A year later, he met his wife, Bridget "Bridie" Jennings, whose journey to America also originated in County Mayo. They married in 1964 and raised three children, Maureen, Eileen and Terry. Mr. Joyce's wife, children and grandchildren were the center and spark of his life—and he remained actively involved in their lives. Mr. and Mrs. Joyce held their Irish homeland close to their hearts, and regularly celebrated treasured customs and traditions for their children and grandchildren to know and cherish. They travelled often from Cleveland to the Emerald Isle, and their strong connection to their heritage reflected throughout our community. Mr. Joyce was named the Irish Fellowship Man of the Year in 1974, and helped found the Irish National Caucus in Cleveland, serving as its president in 1971. He also served on the board of the West Side Irish American Club (WSIA) for many years, and was named the WSIA Man of the Year in 1978. In 1991, he served as co-chair of the Cleveland St. Patrick's Day Parade, and served as parade announcer for twenty-four years.

Mr. Joyce lived his life with heart, compassion, integrity, a great sense of humor and an unwavering work ethic. He mastered the construction trades and became a union member and leader. In 1957, the same year he settled in America, Mr. Joyce joined Cleveland's Laborers Local 310. From 1965 until his retirement in 1991, he served as Local 310's business agent. Mr. Joyce also served as president of the Ohio Labor District Council from 1975 until his retirement in 1991. During his tenure as labor leader, he worked tirelessly on behalf of workers and their families. Mr. Joyce was responsible for major advances in the labor force, including the attainment of critical benefits, including pensions, for union workers. Because of his leadership, Laborers Local 310 of Cleveland grew to become one of the most effective labor unions in the country.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honor and remembrance of Terry "Kelly" Joyce, Sr., whose energy for life, kind heart, and unwavering service to others will forever endure within the hearts and memories of his family, friends and the laborers of our community. I extend my condolences to Mr. Joyce's wife, Bridget; to his children, Maureen, Eileen and Terry; to his son-in-law John and daughter-in-law Nicole; to his grandchildren, Brona, Eoin, Cormac and Aislinn; sister, Grace; and to his extended family members and numerous friends. From family and friends to County and Cleveland Mayor, Mr. Joyce's love of life and service to others will continue to touch the hearts of many, and he will be remembered always.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 5, 2009

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 852 H. Res. 863, No. 853 H. Res. 641, No. 854 H. Res. 711, and No. 855 H. Res. 856 I was not present. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on No. 852; "yea" on No. 853; "yea" on No. 854, and "yea" on No. 855.

CELEBRATING INCREASED FUNDING FOR NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS AND NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 5, 2009

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to highlight the recent increase in funding for the National Endowment for the Arts and National Endowment for the Humanities. The Fiscal Year 2010 Interior Appropriations bill, which President Obama has signed into law, contains \$167.5 million in funding for both agencies, an increase of \$12.5 million over last year's level. This is on top of the \$50 million that the NEA received in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to preserve jobs in the arts. As a member of both the Arts and Humanities Caucuses, I want to thank Representatives SLAUGHTER, PLATTS, PRICE (NC), and PETRI, as well as Chairman DICKS, for their hard work in pushing for these funding increases.

The arts and humanities play a crucial role in our society: they enhance our creativity, promote critical aspects of education, and provide Americans with the opportunity to view works of beauty and personal expression. Through exposure to the arts and humanities, our children are inspired to explore their own creativity and encouraged towards positive development in the course of their educational careers. There are also economic benefits of local arts in our communities, not just for those employed in theaters or museums, but also for tourism and economic revitalization programs. The downturn in philanthropic giving, brought on by the economic collapse, has constrained or even closed cultural institutions and, in turn, the restaurants, hotels, and construction industries that rely on their success. This is just one more reason that these funding increases are needed.

I also want to recognize President Obama for understanding the important role that the arts and humanities play in enriching our lives and strengthening our economy. The President has appointed two exceptionally qualified individuals to head the NEA and NEH. Jim Leach, our former colleague, has a distinguished academic background, including his recent service as Visiting Professor of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School. He brings to the NEH a first-hand understanding of the needs of educators, historians, curators, researchers, archivists and scholars. Rocco

Landesman, the Director of the NEA, has a long and varied career in the performing arts, and has brought an energy and focus to the job that will help foster a vibrant artistic landscape.

Again, I rise to celebrate these important funding increases, and I look forward to working with the President and my colleagues to strengthen support for the arts and humanities.

VETERANS' SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE AND SERVICE-MEMBERS PROTECTION ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. STEVE BUYER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2009

Mr. BUYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3949, the Veterans' Small Business Assistance and Servicemembers Protection Act of 2009, a bill which I am pleased to co-sponsor.

Mr. Speaker, this is an omnibus bill that would make improvements in several areas of veterans legislation by including provisions from bills introduced by Economic Opportunity Subcommittee Chairwoman HERSETH SANDLIN, Ms. KIRKPATRICK, Mr. MILLER of North Carolina, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. MCINTYRE, Ms. JACKSON-LEE, and Mr. FRANK.

However, I am very disappointed that due to jurisdictional issues raised by the majority side of the Committee on Small Business, a provision from my bill, H.R. 3223 was withdrawn from the bill. My provision would merely change the word "may" to "shall" to authorize VA contracting officers to award non-competitive contracts worth less than \$5,000,000 to qualified service disabled veteran-owned businesses. Such contracts would also be required to provide the best value to the government in the judgment of the contracting officer. Changing "may" to "shall" would merely put service-disabled veterans on an equal footing with businesses qualifying as an 8(a) firm under the Small Business Act. The word "shall" is used when awarding noncompetitive contracts to 8(a) firms. The disparity created by using "may" versus "shall" has a negative effect on the ability of service disabled veteran-owned businesses to obtain contracts with VA. It is important that service-disabled veterans are able to compete on a level field and I will continue to advocate for changing "may" to "shall".

Mr. Speaker, I am especially proud of the provisions in Public Law 109-461 passed during the 109th Congress, that improve the competitive status of veteran-owned businesses, VOB, and service-disabled veteran-owned small businesses, SDVOB. We did that by giving Department of Veterans Affairs, VA, contracting officers additional tools to award contracts to those businesses and by making it plain that Congress believed that VOB and SDVOB have priority in VA small business contracting. One of those provisions required VA to maintain a database of veteran and service-disabled veteran-owned businesses and to verify the ownership and control of the businesses listed in the database.

Unfortunately, VA has been slow to implement the verification process and has currently